

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/664,903

Examiner

Thuy V. Tran

Applicant(s)

FINK, STEVEN T.

Art Unit

2821

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment after final 02/02/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14, 16-20, 22 and 23.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

THUY V. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

This is a response to the Applicant's amendment after final under 37 CFR 1.116. In virtue of this amendment, claims 15 and 21 are canceled, and thus, claims 1-14, 16-20, and 22-23 are now presented in the instant application.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-14, 16-20, and 22-23 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Prior art fails to disclose or fairly suggest:

- An assembly configured to be coupled to components of a plasma reactor, the assembly comprising at least one spira-shield electrically connected to the electrostatic shield, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as called for in independent claim 1 (claims 6 and 22 are allowed since they are dependent on claim 1);
- An assembly configured to be coupled to components of a plasma reactor, the assembly comprising at least one spira-shield electrically coupled to the electrostatic shield, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as called for in independent claims 2, 10, 11, and 14 (claims 12, 16, and 23 are allowed since they are dependent on claim 11);
- An assembly configured to be coupled to components of a plasma reactor, the assembly comprising at least one insulating spacer located between the electrostatic shield and an end of the process tube, in combination with the remaining claimed

limitations as called for in independent claim 3 (claims 4-5 are allowed since they are dependent on claim 3);

- An assembly configured to be coupled to components of a plasma reactor; the assembly comprising an electrostatic shield patterned directly on the process tube, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as called for in independent claim 7 (claims 8-9 are allowed since they are dependent on claim 7);
- An assembly configured to be coupled to components of a plasma reactor wherein the electrostatic shield is implemented between two sheets of the flex-print material except on a top and bottom to allow for contacts with a spira-shield, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as called for in independent claim 13;
- A method of fabricating an assembly including a housing, a process tube, and an electrostatic shield comprising electrically coupling the electrostatic shield to the housing through a spira-shield, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as called for in independent claim 17;
- A method of fabricating an assembly including both a process tube and an electrostatic shield, the method comprising patterning the electrostatic shield onto the process tube using at least one of sputtering, evaporation or metal vapor deposition, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as called for in independent claim 18 (claim 19 is allowed since it is dependent on claim 18); and
- A method of fabricating an assembly including both a process tube and an electrostatic shield, the method comprising electrically coupling the electrostatic

Art Unit: 2821

shield to at least one spira-shield, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as called for in independent claim 20.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

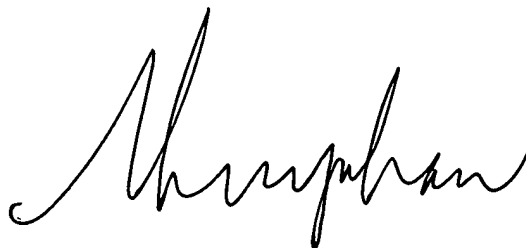
Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy V. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-1828. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00 AM -5:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

02/10/2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thuy V. Tran', is written in a cursive style.

**THUY V. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER**